

Appl. No.: 10/029,956  
Amdt. dated: December 17, 2007

added). Applicants note that even with the large number of references, none of them teach or suggest Applicants' invention either individually or after assemblage in a large group. What the references seem to disclose is some of the same prior art hardware blocks used by Applicants, albeit connected in a different way and without solving the problem solved by Applicants in the manner solved by Applicants.

On page 4, paragraph 8 of the Office Action, Examiner states that: "Regarding applicant's argument to claim 10 with respect to the cited references do not disclose data serialization in a plesiochronous system. In response to applicant's argument it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e. plesiochronous system) are not recited in the rejected claim(s)." To the extent understood, Applicants respond to this rejection by noting that claim 10, as had been amended, is directed to: "10 In a plesiochronous system, a method for PLL/DLL data serialization comprising:" (emphasis added). Accordingly, it is requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

On page 5, paragraph 9, Examiner argues that Gu and Song may be legitimately combined to make a case of obviousness. In response, Applicants restate their prior position and also that, *arguendo*, even if properly combined, the combination does not teach or suggest the invention of Applicants. The fact that Gu does not relate to a plesiochronous system, does not relate to a transmitter/serializer, does not address the problem addressed and solved by Applicants and other important distinctions are serious short-comings in Gu that go far beyond Examiner's characterizing Gu's shortcomings simply as: "connection between a FIFO register with a phase detector".

Moreover, Examiner's reliance on the fact that: "both of the cited references relate to the same environment: e.g. data synchronization system" is misplaced as it is an oversimplification. The fact that Song relies on bit stuffing (a technique avoided by Applicants) has been previously noted. It is respectfully urged that combining the teachings of Gu (related to an asynchronous receiver and not suggesting a FIFO), with the Song patent (related to bit stuffing) is not an obvious combination and even if combined would not obviously result in a plesiochronous transmitter/serializer that overcomes the problems associated with bit stuffing by completely avoiding bit stuffing. Also, the fact that important recitations in Applicants claims directed to the particular

s/n: 10/029,956

11

Docket No.: P-063